

Senator Wilson to-day introduced a bill making it illegal for any member of Congress to appear as a lawyer in any case in which the United States was one of the parties involved. The law is intended to prevent such cases as the recent one of Senator John P. Hale. It produces a decided flutter among gentlemen who have hitherto received large fees in this way.

Mr. Coe's, of Ohio, amendment was then adopted. It secures payment of money to those interested, and immediately after further delay, the bill passed. It appropriates over \$700,000 to the officers and men in the western or Missouri department.

The military recruiting bill then passed.

Senator Wilson will introduce a bill providing for enlistments of any who may be willing to enlist in the rebellion. The bill is intended to give the Government the right to get these men into veteran regiments and at the same time to enlarge the field on which our States can draw for troops. The Senate passed the twenty million appropriation bill for army bounties, to-day, with four amendments, thus sending it back to the House.

There is a chance for getting the distinction classes in the rebellion bill abolished. Congress will take a recess to-morrow, and as some provision will be made to it, it seems probable that it will go to pass.

Senator Sherman came out, to-day, in a debate on the bounty bill, squarely against the payment of large bounties, taking the ground that the country could not stand it, and that the fairer way to raise an army of 500,000 was by drafting.

The whole of Kilpatrick's cavalry division and the excellent Brigade have been sent to the front, and the cavalry division is now in the field.

Senator Trumbull will to-morrow introduce a resolution authorizing the Secretary of War to report the number of Major and Brigadier Generals and their staffs, unengaged in the field, and the number of officers above the rank of Colonel Commanding Departments, Districts and Posts and of officers of lower grades cannot perform their duties.

Ten thousand copies of the Illinois and Michigan Canal Enlargement Memorial were ordered printed to-day.

Senator Wilson to-day spoke in opposition to striking at \$300 from the conscription bill. He said he believed Congress would not strike it out.

The first notes of the new National Banks were put in circulation here yesterday.

Gen. Schofield does not go to Baltimore to-day, but to the front. His confirmation is by no means certain.

New York, Dec. 22.—The Washington special to the Herald says:

The adjourned caucus of the Democratic members of Congress to-night transacted no important business.

Gen. Auger made a trip to-day on the railroad as far as Bull Run, for the purpose of inspecting the road and providing against any possible accident. The bridges were found to be in good condition, and measures have been adopted that will doubtless prevent another descent being upon the line in this Department.

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No credence is given to the rumor that Longstreet's force has been surrounded and Longstreet killed. The Government received nothing contradictory of such reports, although it is in direct communication with Gen. Foster.

The Washington special to the New York Tribune says:

A letter received here to-day, from a distinguished officer of the fleet off Charleston, says so far as visible the only obstructions in Charleston harbor are a double row of pilings across the harbor from Fort Pickens to the Middle Ground and from there to Fort Johnson there is an opening of about 200 feet. The writer thinks the obstructions can easily be removed by the monitors.

The Missouri question has received its settlement. Rosecrans will be sent to St. Louis, and Curtis to Kansas, displacing Ewing.

The special Washington dispatch to the New York Tribune says:

The arrangement by which all matters connected with the exchange of prisoners have been turned over to Major General Butler, who has hitherto been conducting the exchange, has been ordered to report to him. A flag of truce has been sent to Point Lookout to-day for City Point, with 1,000 prisoners on board in charge of Gen. Butler, in exchange for whom he will offer to receive 1,000 of our prisoners now suffering in Richmond.

The secessionists of Baltimore, who still have direct communication with the South profess to have information that Lee's army is in winter quarters at Antietam. General, who has hitherto been conducting the exchange, has been ordered to report to him. A flag of truce has been sent to Point Lookout to-day for City Point, with 1,000 prisoners on board in charge of Gen. Butler, in exchange for whom he will offer to receive 1,000 of our prisoners now suffering in Richmond.

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## JOLIET SIGNAL.

JOLIET, ILLINOIS.

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE CITY.

Tuesday, January 6, 1864.

### The New Year.

Another year has gone down into the chapters of the past, and we have greeted the new-born harbinger of future events. Eighteen hundred and sixty-three has passed away never to return—and eighteen hundred and sixty-four has awakened into life.

It is thus that the sands of man run out. A few coming and going years, and a few rising and setting suns, and man passes to his long home—and is forgotten.

The year through which we have just passed, has, in many respects, been one of momentous consequence, both in a national and individual point of view. In our own unfortunate country, especially, its history has been a bloody one—and its prints will last until the last vestige of civil liberty has departed. The fierce intestine struggle which commenced two and a half years ago was more bloody during the last twelve months, as will witness the fields of Fort Hudson, Vicksburg, Chickasaw, Gettysburg and on the Rapidan. And in battle-fields alone the desperation of strife has not been exhibited. In the homes of burnt cities, and towns, and homes and the wide spread devastation which extends over a large portion of our once fair and happy land, is seen the fruits of the terrible conflict.

To the people of this country, particularly, the chimera of the departed year is anything but cheering. There is no music in their tones, for they speak of stern realities of disappointments, of bitter trials, of appalling war and grievous wrongs. Truly, the year gone by has been one of woe and sadness. It has wrung soul-deep tears from eyes unused to weep, and rubbed away as warlike a firm once clad in purple. But why dwell longer on the sorrowful picture offered by the past?

The future indeed is portentous of events of vast magnitude. During the year eighteen hundred and sixty-four, the people of this country are to decide whether or not they will be content with a mere nominal liberty, or whether they are to sink into an abject military despotism. Many battles, doubtless, will be lost and won and fraternal blood will flow and the wails of the wounded and dying ascend, but the contest at the ballot-box on the first Tuesday of next November will be of more importance than all, so far as depends the future existence of the Union and free government in our land.

If the Democracy, the only true friends of the constitution and the Union, as founded by the patriotic fathers, shall triumph this year, there may be hope for the future, but if the present corrupt and tyrannical dynasty shall be continued in power, all may be given up as lost. It has already drenched our land in blood, and desolated thousands of homes by its perverted policy, and if not checked by the saving principles of conservative Democracy, will bring ruin to the North as it has upon the South.

True patriots, therefore, should employ the new year to the purpose of saving the Union from inevitable destruction, by electing men who will discard the dangerous policy. The power of the sword and the purse will be employed to prevent the election of Democrats or constitution aiding men to the high places of Government, but let us hope that the people may be awakened to the danger that threatens them and our institutions, and the return of another new year, and will have built from power the many that is dragging us to destruction with fearful rapidity.

**The Draft.** It is said that the draft advertised in the "loyal" papers to take place to-day has been postponed twenty days. In the mean time, we presume, recruiting will go on as usual, notwithstanding the repeated statements to the contrary.

The Provost Marshal of this district, as yet, has not informed the people of the county the exact number required from this county. Why does he not enlighten the people on this very important subject, that they may try to fill our quota if possible? Certainly we cannot see the propriety or necessity of keeping the people in the dark in regard to a matter of such vast importance to them.

If justice were done, and proper credits given for all the men furnished by the county, we do not believe that we would be behind a single man. But our Abolition rulers have the wires in their own hands and doubtless will endeavor to punish Will County for her Democratic proclivities. In other words, it looks as though they meant to draft Democrats and let the loyal leagues slip. If a draft were necessary, let this matter be attended to.

**A Good Time to Pay Debts.** The present is an excellent time for those who owe money to pay up. Greenbacks being a legal tender, notwithstanding they are worth but 62 per cent in gold—the only true standard of value—yet no man dare refuse them if presented as payment for debt. Thus a man can pay off his debts at the rate of 38 per cent discount. How long this state of things will exist, depends altogether upon the ability of Secretary Chase and the bankers to humbug the people. In the meantime we would advise our readers to pay their debts now, for it is our opinion they will never have as favorable an opportunity to do so again. People who owe anything to their neighbor, if they can raise the money, or rather what passes as money at present, should pay before the impending financial crisis comes upon the country.

**DEATH OF DR. SCHOFIELD.**—A Wisconsin paper announces the death of Dr. William Schofield, one of the earliest settlers of this city, which took place at Stevens Point, in that State, on the 7th ult. For many years Dr. Schofield was one of our most prominent citizens, and was always eminent for his sound morals and exalted intellect. His judgment on all subjects was reliable, and his courteous manners and frankness won him hosts of friends. Few were as highly esteemed. The tidings of his death caused pain to the hearts of all our oldest citizens.

**Morris Kienetien, on the corner of Joliet and Jefferson streets, wants customers for about two thousand good warm coats.**

## How Abolitionism Benefits the Negro.

For thirty years Abolitionism struggled for the ascendancy in this country, but until Abraham Lincoln was elected President of the United States, its efforts were unavailing. Founded upon pretended philanthropy, it gradually worked its way into the churches, the schools, the Legislature, and finally succeeded in reaching its long coveted position—the control of the Legislative and Executive departments of the Government.

Abolitionism is now enthroned in all the high places of the Government; it fills the Presidential chair; it rules the Senate; it wields the banks; it leads the armies, and the resources and lives of the citizens of the country are at its feet, but what has it done for its cherished principle of negro freedom and equality? It is true it has rained commerce, it has overwhelmed the nation with debt and taxation; it has filled thousands of new-made graves; it has destroyed the "best Government" in the world, but what has it accomplished for the benefit of the negro—its exclusive object of professed charity and consideration?

A letter in the New York Tribune, the great oracle of Abolitionism in America, gives a sufficient answer to the foregoing interrogatory. It tells us that in our army of the West, the negroes were dying like rotten sheep; that those who acted as servants to the officers when taken sick were driven out to the woods to die; that they lay out in the open air, on the pavement of the streets, or huddled together in fields or on vacant lots, without food, without shelter, without medicine, without care of any kind, present the most appalling spectacle of suffering humanity.

Admit that one hundred and fifty thousand negroes have been freed by the war as waged under the President's emancipation proclamation, at a cost of the lives of at least three hundred thousand white men, how much better are they off than they were in their former condition? Let the untold woe and wretchedness of those poor unfortunate creatures who have fallen under the ban of Abolitionism answer this question.

It is not therefore, evident that while Abolitionism is destroying the white race, it is rendering the condition of the negroes tenfold more distressing than it was before it attained power? Surely Abolitionism has been tested to the sorrow of every friend of humanity, and has proved not only the destroyer of the white race but the bane to the "American citizens of African descent."

**Enrollment Frauds.** The Galena Democrat publishes a list of one hundred and seventeen names of residents of that city and omitted by the enrolling officer from the enrollment. They are all Abolitionists, and the Democrat says that of the entire number there are not more than fifteen who are exempt because of age, while on the enrolled lists there are scores of Democrats who are clearly exempt. In one family there are three liable to military duty in the first class—one is a Democrat and the other two are Abolitionists. The Democrat is enrolled and the others omitted.

The extent of these frauds in Galena should induce Democrats everywhere to examine the lists and to report the names of their Abolition neighbors who may have been omitted by the Abolition enrolling officers. Every man, whose name is on the list, is interested in having the list complete and correct, as his chance to be drafted is lessened by having all the names on. Democrats need not expect fair play as the entire business of drafting is managed by their Abolition opponents, but they may prevent much fraud by vigilance.

If enlistment continues as brisk for the next ten days as it has for a few days past there will be no draft in this county for the present, but there may be sometime, and the lists ought to be as correct as they can be made under partial enrollment officers.

**The State Register** says with truth that the "Government" seems to take delight in honoring the lowest and worst specimens of mankind it can discover in the country, probably stumbling on these in the search for its peers. Mr. Lincoln has made Busted and Delahay U. States Judges—a life office to each—and Secretary Chase has appointed Callahan, the man who sold himself to Abolitionism for \$1,200 to be disbursing agent of the treasury for the West. Even Callahan's immediate constituency were so hugely disgusted with his rascality, that he only received 244 votes when a candidate for reelection to the Assembly. Thieves, loafers and pot house politicians are the agencies by which the "Government" is returning the country to the "policy of the fathers."

**Patriotic.**—A wealthy old Loyal League of this town, who denounces all Democrats as Copperheads and disloyals, and is in favor of carrying on the war until every slave is freed, went before Provost Marshal Longworth and made oath that he was dependent on one of his sons for support, when it is notorious that the exempted son is dependent upon the old gentleman himself for sustenance. These Abolition liars are anxious for the "war to go on, but they do not want their sons to do any part of the fighting. It is "Copperheads" and those who they class as "traitors" whom they want to draft into the army.

**A Valuable Present.**—The gallant and brave Capt. J. C. Williams, of the noble 100th, and at present on Ch. Bull's staff, was at home on a furlough last week, and brought us a beautiful young hickory cane out on the bloody field of Lookout Mountain. We need not inform our readers that we highly appreciate this evidence of the Captain's consideration. He is a true man, and has proved himself a brave soldier on several battlefields, and we trust may be spared to return to his home amongst us, when this cruel war shall have terminated.

**Fire.**—The Du Page House, Plainfield, was burned down on new year's evening. Loss estimated at \$5,000. The fire originated from a defective chimney, and had made such progress when discovered that it was impossible to rescue the furniture from the burning building.

**Notwithstanding Christmas and New Year's** have passed, we notice that our friend Fox has yet on hand a large assortment of furs, animals, and other nice things that he is offering at most reasonable rates.

## The Presidential Scheme.

The terms upon which President Lincoln proposes to receive the people of the seceding States, are:

1. The secessionists must give up their arms and surrender their property in slaves, and make no claim to their other already confiscated property.

2. The loyal citizens must relinquish all property in slaves.

3. Both loyalists and submitting secessionists must swear that they approve and will sustain all the confiscation and emancipation acts of Congress, and all the proclamations of the President, present, past and to come.

When one-tenth of the people shall take this oath, they shall govern the other nine tenths; and shall be entitled to make new constitutions, excluding, if so disposed, all citizens from the exercise of the rights of citizenship. The President offers to sustain by the army, the one-tenth, in their authority over the rest of the people.

These bastards shall be entitled to vote at the next Presidential election—and to vote for Lincoln's re-election.

This scheme is considered a sure method to contract the war, and prolong the reign of the present dynasty of slavery.

Indeed, the President virtually confesses that he looks only to a prolongation of the war, as is evident from his message and his war of pretended amnesty.

**Capt. Daniel O'Connor** is at the office of the late Capt. O'Connor, brother of P. O'Connor, Esq., or company D, 90th Ill. regiment, who was severely wounded while gallantly leading his company to the charge on Mission Ridge, in the late battle, has so far recovered as to be able to return to his home in this city. He received three deep wounds and laid on the field for several hours after the battle when he was taken to the hospital. Capt. O'Connor has proved himself a heroic and gallant soldier and should receive such attention from our citizens as is merited by brave and noble conduct.

**Cold Weather.**—That venerable individual, the "oldest inhabitant," never experienced such intense cold weather in this latitude as visited us on Friday and Saturday. On Friday, particularly, it was almost impossible to be exposed to the atmosphere without freezing. Our streets were deserted and but little business of any kind was done. The thermometer sank as low as 30 degrees. And though the weather moderated a little on Sunday, it is yet as cold as Greenland.

**The Rev. C. J. Macready** has been associated with Mr. Braden in the editorial management of that paper. Considering that a Reverend will be connected with the Republican in future it is hoped that its morals will be of a higher tone.

**The Great Storm.**—The snow storm of last Thursday and Friday has seldom been equalled in this part of the country. The wind blew with great force from the west, filling the air with clouds of snow and drifting it in heaps, without regard to locality. The tracks of the railroads were completely blocked for three days, no trains passing either way until yesterday. The storm extended throughout the West and over a portion of the Eastern States.

**Drowned.**—A little daughter of Mrs. Farley, aged about nine years, was drowned in the canal in the western part of the city, on the 27th ult. It appeared in evidence before the coroner's jury that she had been sent by her mother for some water, and in dipping up the water with a pail slipped off the bank and was drowned. This makes the second child Mrs. Farley has lost by drowning during the last year.

**BUCKWHEAT FLOUR.**—For a pure and fresh article of buckwheat flour call at the store of S. W. Stone & Co. They have some of the best that can be found in the country. It is no mixture, but the genuine article itself. Buy some, and try it.

**Union Fire Co.**—The following are the officers elected for Union Fire Co. No. 2, for the ensuing year: Foreman—Joseph Brown. 1st Assistant—John Lupton. 2d do—John Yurt. Secretary—A. Brown. Treasurer—Henry Yurt. Steward—John Yurt.

**Hon. J. C. Allen** has our thanks for valuable Congressional documents.

**From Memphis, Cairo, &c.** Memphis, Dec. 28, via Cairo Dec. 30. After suffering defeat at Summerville, the Confederates are retreating in the direction of the Mississippi. They have not yet been recovered. Forrest divided his forces, and a column, represented at 4,000, crossed Wolf river, near Lafayette, yesterday afternoon. They destroyed several small cultures and treasuries and telegraph line on the Memphis and Charleston road, between Collierville and Moscow, and have gone South. Grierson's cavalry and McClellan's brigade of infantry are in the Lower Mississippi and made oath that he was dependent on one of his sons for support, when it is notorious that the exempted son is dependent upon the old gentleman himself for sustenance. These Abolition liars are anxious for the "war to go on, but they do not want their sons to do any part of the fighting. It is "Copperheads" and those who they class as "traitors" whom they want to draft into the army.

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## From Europe.

New York, Dec. 30.

The steamer City of Manchester arrived this evening. News mainly anticipated. Official letters from the Duke of Devonshire, the Governor of the Bahamas state that in a grave emergency, intelligence of a resident official specially delegated, instead of our permission of the government.

The Morning Post says that Lord Walsingham was instructed to tell the king of Denmark that he may rely on the assistance of England in event of the integrity of Denmark being threatened. It is reported that 22,000 Swedish troops, headed by the king, were in motion.

Emperor Napoleon had made a brief and pacific speech to the king of Denmark, that he may rely on the assistance of England in event of the integrity of Denmark being threatened. It is reported that 22,000 Swedish troops, headed by the king, were in motion.

Our long and weary journey, headed by the king, were in motion. The paragraph relative to a rapid pace and the European congress was debated at length and produced a strong sentiment of Russian sentiment and a counter protest against going to war for the Poles.

It is stated that the new French loan is to be raised by public subscription. The French government has a mission to notify the French government of the recognition by the Confederate government of the empire of Mexico. The Emperor Napoleon is reported to have returned to his residence in the south in return for such acknowledgment.

The Holostein question remains without change. It is supposed that Denmark would not so readily oppose the federal election. In fact it is stated that the Danish troops will be withdrawn from H. Stein, but the king of Denmark will not acknowledge federal election.

The Liverpool Post says: We consider ourselves in a position to state that Lord Lyons, in a despatch to Earl Russell, from Washington, said that the Danish troops will be withdrawn from H. Stein, but the king of Denmark will not acknowledge federal election.

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